

## Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SP-02 AID-05 EB-07 NSC-05 CIEP-01

TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-01 OMB-01 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00

FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 LAB-04 SIL-01

PA-01 PRS-01 USIA-06 /077 W  
----- 071623

R 071625Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9555

INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

AMEMBASSY PANAMA

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

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GUATEMALA ALSO FOR ROCAP

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ECIN, ELAB, CS

SUBJECT: HIGH LEVEL COMMITTEE MEETING

REF: SAN JOSE 0831

SUMMARY: FAILURE TO FORM A CONSENSUS ON SOCIAL POLICY AT THE LAST HLC MEETING DID NOT DISAPPOINT THE COSTA RICAN ALTERNATE HLC COMMISSIONER. HE BELIEVES THAT A BROAD CONSENSUS WILL BE REACHED FOR INCORPORATION IN THE NEW DRAFT TREATY AND THAT THE DRAFT SHOULD BE READY MORE OR LESS ON SCHEDULE, I.E. BY AROUND JULY. END SUMMARY.

1. EMBOFF CALLED ON COSTA RICAN ALTERNATE HLC COMMISSIONER, FERNANDO BERROCAL, ON MARCH 6 TO ASK FOR HIS ASSESSMENT OF THE RESULTS OF LAST WEEK'S HLC MEETING. AS REPORTED IN REFTEL  
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THE MEETING, WHICH DEALT WITH CACM SOCIAL POLICY, TURNED

OUT TO BE A PRELIMINARY ONE IN THE SENSE THAT NO MAJOR ISSUES SEEM TO HAVE BEEN RESOLVED. RATHER, EACH DELEGATE VOICED HIS COUNTRY'S OPINIONS AND SIECA WAS CHARGED WITH DRAWING UP A DOCUMENT HIGHLIGHTING AREAS OF CONSENSUS AND OF DISAGREEMENT. IT WAS AGREED THAT THE SIECA DRAFT WOULD SERVE AS A FOCAL POINT FOR DISCUSSIONS AT THE NEXT HLD MEETING SCHEDULED TO BE HELD IN GUATEMALA FROM MARCH 17 - 21.

2. WHEN ASKED IF HE WAS DISAPPOINTED WITH THE RESULTS OF THE MEETING, BERROCAL SAID NO, THAT HE EXPECTED FROM THE OUTSET THAT BECAUSE OF THE COMPLEXITY OF THE SOCIAL ISSUE THE SAN JOSE MEEGING WOULD TURN OUT TO BE PRELIMINARY IN NATURE. ON THE CONTROVERSIAL ISSUE OF LABOR MOBILITY HE NOTED THAT A COMPROMISE WILL PROBABLY BE REACHED BY STATING IN THE NEW TREATY THAT THIS IS A COMMUNITY GOAL BUT BY LEAVING NEGOTIATION OF THE PRIOR CONDITIONS NECESSARY FOR ITS IMPLEMENTATION TO THE FUTURE. HE DESCRIBED THE CURRENT POSITIONS OF THE CACM GOVERNMENTS ON THIS ISSUE AS FOLLOWS: NICARAGUA IS AT PRESENT 100 PERCENT AGAINST THE IDEA AND DOESN'T EVEN WANT IT STATED AS A FUTURE GOAL IN THE TREATY, EL SALVADOR WANTS LABOR MOBILITY VERY MUCH BUT WILL SETTLE FOR A COMPROMISE SOLUTION, HONDURAS AND COSTA RICA WILL GO ALONG WITH LABOR MOBILITY IF REGIONAL EMPLOYMENT POLICIES ARE EQUALIZED AND WILL ACCEPT ITS STATEMENT AS A GOAL IN THE TREATY, GUATEMALA WILL ALSO ACCEPT IT AS A GOAL AND SEEMS TO LEAN MORE, BERROCAL SAID HALF-WAY, TOWARD SUPPORTING EL SALVADOR THAN THE OTHER COUNTRIES.

3. BERROCAL DID NOT SEEM TO BELIEVE THAT PUSHING OVER DISCUSSIONS OF SOCIAL POLICY INTO THE NEXT HLC MEETING, WHICH IS SCHEDULED TO DEAL WITH THE EQUALLY COMPLEX PROBLEM OF MONETARY POLICY, WILL CAUSE ANY SIGNIFICANT DELAY IN THE HLC SCHEDULE. AT THE MOST IT MIGHT MEAN THE DEADLINE FOR PREPARING THE DRAFT TREATY WOULD BE POSTPONED TO AUGUST AND POSSIBLY, BQ NOT PROBABLY, UNTIL SEPTEMBER AT THE LATEST. BERROCAL EXPLAINED THAT THIS IS SO BECAUSE ALL OF THE HLC COMMISSIONERS, WITH THE EXCEPTION ON THE NICARAGUAN, WERE FED UP (HARTO) WITH THESE NEGOTIATIONS WHICH HAVE BEEN GOING ON FOR TWO YEARS NOW HE SAID THAT ONLY THE NICARAGUAN COMMISSIONER DEALS WITH INTEGRATION ON A FULL-TIME BASIS AND THAT THE OTHER COMMISSIONERS HAVE OTHER INTERESTS BESIDES LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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INTEGRATION TO WHICH THEY WISH TO DEVOTE THEIR TIME. HE CHARACTERIZED THE COSTA RICAN, GUATEMALA, AND SALVADORAN COMMISSIONERS AS THE REAL INTELLECTUAL BASE OF THE HLC AND IMPLIED THAT WITHOUT THEIR SUPPORT FRUITFUL DISCUSSIONS COULD NOT CONTINUE.

4. WHEN ASKED IF THIS ATTITUDE WOULD LEAD TO A RUBBER STAMPING OF THE SIECA DRAFT TREATY, BERROCAL SAID DEFINITELY

NOT, THAT THE TREATY AS NOW DRAFTED CONTAINED MANY AREAS THAT  
ARE VERY CONTROVERSIAL. HE SEEMS TO BELIEVE THAT THE DRAFT  
WHICH WILL EMERGE FROM THE HLC MEETINGS IN JULY OR  
AUGUST WILL BE MUCH LESS CONTROVERSIAL AND WILL EMPHASIZE  
BROAD AREAS OF CONSENSUS AND THE NEED TO IMPLEMENT  
COMMUNITY GOALS IN A GRADUAL MANNER.  
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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** AGREEMENT DRAFT, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, MEETING PROCEEDINGS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 07 MAR 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
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**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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